

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LYON 00055 201857Z
ACTION EUR-12

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AMCONSUL BORDEAUX
AMCONSUL NICE
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

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SUBJECT : LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS IN THE LYON CONSULAR
DISTRICT - FINAL RESULTS

SUMMARY :

----- BENEFITING FROM THE EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE
VOTER TURN-OUT IN EXCELLENT WEATHER, THE MAJORITY PARTIES
OBTAINED A SLIGHTLY BETTER RESULT THAN PREDICTED WINNING
A TOTAL OF 43 OUT OF THE 66 SEATS AT STAKE IN THE DISTRICT.
AS IN OTHER PARTS OF FRANCE THE LACK OF SOCIALIST AND
COMMUNIST DISCIPLINE IN VOTING FOR EACH OTHERS
CANDIDATES ON THE SECOND TOUR HAD A CRUCIAL EFFECT IN
DETERMINING THE OUTCOME.

1. IN MOST DEPARTMENTS OF THE LYON CONSULAR DISTRICT
MAJORITY CANDIDATES RAN A FEW PERCENTAGE POINTS BETTER
THAN PREDICTED. IN SEVERAL INSTANCES THIS PROVED TO
BE JUST ENOUGH TO GIVE THEM A SLIGHT WINNING EDGE.
AMONG THE REASONS CITED FOR THIS BETTER THAN EXPECTED
PERFORMANCE ARE THE RECORD TURN-OUT, THE EXCELLENCE
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PAGE 02 LYON 00055 201857Z

OF THE WEATHER AND THE FACT THAT DISCIPLINE AND
LOYALTY WAS OFTEN MISSING WHEN IT CAME TO SOCIALISTS
SUPPORTING LEADING COMMUNISTS AND VICE-VERSA.

2. OF THE 66 SEATS CONTESTED IN THE CONSULAR DISTRICT :

- 38 SEATS WERE RETAINED BY THE MAJORITY

- 17 SEATS WERE RETAINED BY THE LEFT
- 6 MAJORITY SEATS WERE GAINED BY THE OPPOSITION
- 5 LEFT SEATS WERE GAINED BY THE MAJORITY

THE FINAL RESULT IS THUS : MAJORITY : 43 SEATS
LEFT : 23 SEATS

3. OF THE 43 SEATS WON BY THE MAJORITY, 29 WENT TO UDF CANDIDATES AND 14 TO RPR.

OF THE 23 SEATS WON BY THE LEFT, 5 WENT TO PC CANDIDATES, 1 TO THE MRG, AND 17 TO THE PS. THIS MEANS THAT THE PC MADE A NET GAIN OF 2 SEATS IN THE DISTRICT, BOTH TAKEN OVER FROM PREVIOUS MAJORITY INCUMBENTS. THE TWO MAJORITY SEATS LOST TO THE PC WERE THOSE OF MAURICE BRUN, MAYOR OF MONTLUCON IN THE ALLIER, AND ROGER PARTRAT OF THE FOURTH DISTRICT IN THE LOIRE, NATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE FRENCH ECONOMIC PLANNING AGENCY.

4. NOTWITHSTANDING HIS UNFAVORABLE POSITION IN THE FIRST ROUND, DESCRIBED IN LYON 0054, MAYOR HECTOR ROLLAND OF THE CITY OF MOULINS WON OVER HIS PC OPPONENT BY MORE THAN 1,700 VOTES.

5. IN THE ISERE S FIRST DISTRICT, CABANEL, P.R., RETAINED HIS SEAT BY A MEAGRE 466 VOTES OVER HIS SOCIALIST OPPONENT MME SICARD. GRENOBLE MAYOR DUBEDOUT
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PAGE 03 LYON 00055 201857Z

POLLED ALMOST 10,000 MORE VOTES THAN HIS YOUNG CHALLENGER GARIGNON, RPR, WHO WITH HIS 44 0/0 WILL NEVERTHELESS BE A POLITICAL FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH IN THE FUTURE.

6. IN SAINT-ETIENNE, FORMER MINISTER DURAFOUR, WHO LOST THE MAYORSHIP OF HIS CITY IN THE LAST MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, RAN BETTER THAN EXPECTED BEATING HIS COMMUNIST OPPONENT BY ALMOST 3,000 VOTES . IN SOUTH SAINT-ETIENNE DEPUTE NEUWIRTH SOUNDLY DEFEATED HIS COMMUNIST CHALLENGER TOMAS. HERE AGAIN IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A VERY CLOSE SITUATION, IF NOT ADVERSE, IF THE SOCIALISTS HAD FULLY SUPPORTED THE COMMUNIST CANDIDATE.

7. IN THE HIGHLY INDUSTRIALIZED RHONE DEPARTMENT, THE MAJORITY DID EXCEPTIONALLY WELL IN MAINTAINING ITS FORMER POSITION OF 10 OUT OF 13 SEATS. IN VILLEURBANNE, THE SIXTH RHONE DISTRICT, MAYOR CHARLES HERNU WON AS EXPECTED TAKING A SEAT THAT HAD FORMERLY BEEN OCCUPIED BY A CENTRIST. HOWEVER, THIS LOSS WAS COMPENSATED IN VILLEFRANCHE , THE TENTH RHONE DISTRICT, WHERE PERUT, PR, UNEXPECTEDLY DEFEATED POUTISSOU,

HERETOFORE CONSIDERED A SURE SOCIALIST WINNER. THIS TIME
THERE WAS NO COMMUNIST DISCIPLINE OR SUPPORT IN FAVOR
OF THE LEADING SOCIALIST CANDIDATE.
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